

The enrolled bill provides \$4.0 billion for water resources programs at the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation—98 percent of the amount I requested. At the same time, the Congress added 14 unrequested Corps of Engineers new start construction projects that will require over \$1.1 billion in total Federal funds to complete, potentially causing delays in ongoing projects. I look forward to maintaining a dialogue with the Congress to formulate a mutually acceptable reinvention strategy for the Corps of Engineers.

I am particularly pleased that the Congress satisfactorily resolved sensitive language issues that the Administration was concerned about, including some cases in which language contained in earlier versions of the bill would have overridden environmental laws.

Again, I urge the Congress to meet its responsibilities by sending me the remaining regular FY 1996 appropriations bills in acceptable form.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
November 13, 1995.

NOTE: H.R. 1905, approved November 13, was assigned Public Law No. 104-46.

### **Message to the Congress Returning Without Approval Continuing Resolution Legislation**

*November 13, 1995*

*To the House of Representatives:*

I am returning herewith without my approval H.J. 115, the Second Continuing Resolution for fiscal year 1996.

This legislation would raise Medicare premiums on senior citizens, and deeply cut education and environmental protection, as the cost for keeping the government running. Those are conditions that are not necessary to meet my goal of balancing the budget.

If I signed my name to this bill now, millions of elderly couples all across this country would be forced to sign away \$264 more in Medicare premiums next year, premium hikes that are not necessary to balance the budget. If America must close down access to quality education, a clean environment

and affordable health care for our seniors, in order to keep the government open, then that price is too high.

We don't need these cuts to balance the budget. And we do not need big cuts in education and the environment to balance the budget. I have proposed a balanced budget without these cuts.

I will continue to fight for my principles: a balanced budget that does not undermine Medicare, education or the environment, and that does not raise taxes on working families. I will not take steps that I believe will weaken our nation, harm our people and limit our future as the cost of temporarily keeping the government open.

I continue to be hopeful that we can find common ground on balancing the budget. With this veto, it is now up to the Congress to take the reasonable and responsible course. They can still avoid a government shutdown.

Congress still has the opportunity to pass clean continuing resolution and debt ceiling bills. These straightforward measures would allow the United States government to keep functioning and meet its obligations, without attempting to force the acceptance of Republican budget priorities.

Indeed, when Congress did not pass the 13 appropriations bills to fund the government for fiscal year 1996 by September 30, we agreed on a fair continuing resolution that kept the Government operating and established a level playing field while Congress completed its work.

Now, more than six weeks later, Congress still has sent me only three bills that I have been able to sign. Indeed, I am pleased to be signing the Energy and Water bill today. This bill is the result of a cooperative effort between my Administration and the Congress. It shows that when we work together, we can produce good legislation.

We can have a fair and open debate about the best way to balance the budget. America can balance the budget without extreme cuts in Medicare, Medicaid, education or the environment—and that is what we must do.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
November 13, 1995.

**Memorandum on United States  
Relations With the Palestine  
Liberation Organization**  
*November 13, 1995*

Presidential Determination No. 96-5

*Memorandum for the Secretary of State*

*Subject:* Suspending Restrictions on U.S.  
Relations with the Palestine Liberation  
Organization

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994, part E of Title V, Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal years 1994 and 1995, Public Law 103-236, as amended, ("the Act"), I hereby:

(1) certify that it is in the national interest to suspend application of the following provisions of law until December 31, 1995:

- (A) Section 307 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (22 U.S.C. 2227), as it applies with respect to the Palestine Liberation Organization or entities associated with it;
- (B) Section 114 of the Department of State Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (22 U.S.C. 287e note), as it applies with respect to the Palestine Liberation Organization or entities associated with it;
- (C) Section 1003 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989 (22 U.S.C. 2502); and
- (D) Section 37, Bretton Woods Agreement Act (22 U.S.C. 286w), as it applies to the granting to the Palestine Liberation Organization of observer status or other official status at any meeting sponsored by or associated with the International Monetary Fund.

(2) certify that the Palestine Liberation Organization continues to abide by the Commitments described in Section 583(b)(4) of the Act.

You are authorized and directed to transmit this determination to Congress and to publish it in the *Federal Register*.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 4:20 p.m., November 20, 1995.]

NOTE: This memorandum will be published in the *Federal Register* on November 22.

**Statement on Action to Prevent  
Default on the Public Debt**  
*November 15, 1995*

The Republican Congress has failed to take responsible action to prevent default for the first time in our history and to ensure that the Government can meet its obligations, including paying next month's Social Security benefits. To prevent against default and all of its subsequent harmful consequences, my Secretary of Treasury has been forced today to take extraordinary but necessary actions. I won't allow the Republican Congress to force us into default or put Social Security beneficiaries at risk. If the Republican Congress won't take action to prevent default and protect Social Security recipients, I will.

**Proclamation 6850—National Great  
American Smokeout Day, 1995**  
*November 15, 1995*

*By the President of the United States  
of America*

**A Proclamation**

Children are our Nation's most precious resource and most sacred obligation. And all of us—whether parents or guardians, teachers or coaches, ministers or rabbis, friends or government officials—can play a role in nurturing young people and working to ensure their future health and happiness. Our children look to us for guidance, and we must do all we can to provide them with examples of personal responsibility and good citizenship.

Yet, every day, some 3,000 young Americans become regular smokers, falling victim to negative influences and provocative advertisements and putting themselves at risk of the diseases caused by nicotine addiction. Nearly 1,000 of these children will die prematurely, joining the more than 400,000 Americans who lose their lives to tobacco-related illnesses each year. For a country so